(d) The steps taken to encourage the establishment of such power generation projects, include, besides Central Financial Assistance, fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation and concessional duties and taxes; and, term loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency. The State Governments have introduced a policy for power generation from non-conventional energy sources.

(e) Two schemes are available for entrepreneurs to set up power generation projects from rice husk. In the first scheme, for large grid-connected projects, interest subsidy on term loan or capital subsidy is provided for different types of projects. In the other scheme, for decentralized projects, capital subsidy is provided for eligible projects.

Tapping of wind energy for power production

4277. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great potential in tapping Wind Energy for power production;

(b) if so, what is the total cost of production involved to set up small commercial wind-generated power plants; and

(c) whether Government intends to introduce more subsidies for the cost of production to make wind generated power plants more economically for commercial purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The gross wind power potential in the country has been estimated at 45,000 MW. The present exploitable technical potential is 13,000 MW.

(b) The total cost of installation of commercial wind power projects, on average, is in the range of Rs. 4.5 crore to Rs. 5.5 crore per MW, depending upon their location, type of equipment selected, and other infrastructure costs.

(c) No direct capital subsidy is provided to commercial wind power projects. However, various fiscal and promotional incentives and term loans are available to improve their economic viability. Policies have also

been announced by the potential States for power generated from these projects.

Conducting exhibitions for popularising the Non-Conventional Energy Sources

4278. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all exhibitions are conducted only through the assistance of various Non-Conventional Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh's or State Government agencies;

(b) if, so the reasons for such total dependence on the State machinery;

(c) whether it is a fact that many State Government agencies are not qualified to hold good and attractive exhibitions to popularise non-conventional energy; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed by Government to find alternate ways to have small exhibitions all over the country for popularising non-conventional energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES) provides financial support to the Non-Conventional Energy Develoment Corporation of Andhra Pradesh (NEDCAP) and the other State Nodal Agencies for organizing exhibitions on non-conventional energy devices and systems in their respective States, so that the displays, and necessary information including that of the State Govt. programmes on non-conventional energy could be provided to the visitors in the regional/local languages. Besides, for international exhibitions; MNES provides partial support to the organizers for meeting the rent of bare space taken by the participating industries, NGOs and Industrial Association.

(c) and (d) The State Nodal Agencies for Renewable Energy have adequate expert manpower to organize good exhibitions. Some of these agencies have also received the awards for exhibitions in the past.

Development of fuel cell energy sources

4279. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether research into development of fuel cell energy sources as